

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, comprising:

 a steel sheet; and

 a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its surface which defines the inner surface of the battery case,

 wherein

 the nickel-phosphorous alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt, and

the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a thickness in the range of 0.1 to 2 μ m.

2. **(Currently Amended)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, according to claim 1, further comprising a nickel plating layer formed between the steel sheet and ~~a~~the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer;

wherein

a thickness of the nickel plating layer is in the range of 0.5 to 3 μ m on a surface supposed to define the inner surface of the battery case.

3. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according to claim 1, further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed between the steel sheet and the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according to claim 1, further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer and a nickel layer formed between the steel sheet and the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer; wherein the iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as an under layer, and the nickel layer is formed as an intermediate layer.

5. **(Cancelled)**

6. **(Previously Presented)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in claim 1, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

7. **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Previously Presented)** A battery case comprising a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its inner surface, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case ~~characterized by~~
~~having according to claim 8, further comprising~~ a nickel plating layer formed as
an under layer and ~~a wherein the~~ nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer ~~formed~~
~~asforms~~ a top layer on its inner surface.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case according to claim 8,
further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer and
a wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its
inner surface.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case according to claim 8,
further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer, a
nickel layer as an intermediate layer ~~and a wherein the~~ nickel-phosphorus alloy
plating layer forms ~~formed as a~~ top layer on its inner surface.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A battery case as set forth in claim
8, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in
the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** A battery case manufactured as set
~~forth in claim 8, and formed by a deep drawing, DI or DTR method~~ of the surface-
treated steel sheet according to claim 1.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A battery comprising the
~~characterized by employing a battery case as set forth in claim 8, with cathode~~
~~active materials packed in the battery case and anode active materials packed in~~
~~the battery case and packing its interior with cathode and anode active~~
materials.

16. **(New)** A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according
to claim 1, further comprising a nickel plating layer over the steel sheet on the
side supposed to define outer surface of the battery case, wherein a thickness of
outer surface of the battery case, wherein a thickness of the nickel plating layer is
in the range of 0.2 to 3 μ m.